

Public Law 103-299  
103d Congress

Joint Resolution

Recognizing the American Academy in Rome, an American overseas center for independent study and advanced research, on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of its founding.

Aug. 18, 1994

[S.J. Res. 204]

Whereas the American Academy in Rome was established 100 years ago in Italy as the foremost American overseas center for independent study and advanced research on the fine arts and the humanities;

Whereas the American Academy in Rome has been a constant, active force for the enrichment of American culture, as year after year its Fellows and Residents have returned to the United States, enriched by the cultural heritage of Italy, and have conveyed their enrichment to their compatriots;

Whereas the American Academy in Rome has maintained and expanded upon the basis of its founding, and currently serves more than 3,000 people annually with its fellowship and residency programs, its unique research library, a series of summer programs, and projects in archaeology and publishing, and serves thousands of other people who participate in Academy concerts, lectures, symposia, exhibitions, and other special events in Rome and the United States;

Whereas the central purpose of the American Academy in Rome is its fellowship program, the Academy being committed to identifying and nurturing the most promising American talent available through the annual Rome Prize Fellowships competition and related programs;

Whereas since its founding, the American Academy in Rome has awarded more than 2,500 fellowships and residencies in the fields of architecture, design arts, landscape architecture, conservation and historic preservation, literature, musical composition, visual arts, classical studies, archaeology, art history, modern Italian studies, and post-classical humanistic studies;

Whereas the American Academy in Rome provides its gifted Fellows and Residents with the opportunity to develop and refine their professional, artistic, and scholarly potential through working on their own projects, interaction with their colleagues, and association with members of the Italian and European scholarly and artistic communities;

Whereas Fellows and Residents of the American Academy in Rome have included 2 Nobel Prize winners, 4 United States Poets Laureate, 7 National Medal of Arts winners, 9 MacArthur Fellows, and 30 Pulitzer Prize winners, and have won numerous other honors and awards;

Whereas the American Academy in Rome's library contains 111,000 volumes and ranks among the world's richest in its holdings in the fields of Roman topography and archaeology, and is further distinguished for its collection of rare books, periodicals, and works on Italian art and architecture;

Whereas the American Academy in Rome has always represented and fostered excellence in scholarship, having a distinguished scholarly faculty, having many of its Fellows and Residents go on to occupy chairs and posts of high responsibility in the finest colleges and universities in the United States, having publications which rival in quality the best that Europe produces, and having alumni who are the recipients of many academic degrees, honors, and awards;

Whereas the American Academy in Rome can be proud of its reputation in Roman archaeology, having been committed to this lofty and exacting pursuit from its very inception, having revolutionized the history of Roman republican architecture and town planning by its excavations at Cosa in Etruria, and by continuing to further the development of the field through its perennial engagement in the training of excavators and the work of excavation;

Whereas the American Academy in Rome relies entirely on the income from its endowment, and the financial support of philanthropic individuals, foundations, corporations, colleges and universities across the United States, and the National Endowments for the Arts and for the Humanities; and

Whereas the American Academy in Rome is committed to ensuring the availability of the Rome Prize Fellowships to future generations of Americans as the United States approaches the 21st century: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the American Academy in Rome, an American overseas center for independent study and advanced research based in Rome, Italy, which has played a pivotal role in the transference of culture between the United States and Italy, fostering international cultural relations between the two countries, be recognized for its contributions to America's cultural and intellectual life on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of its founding.

Approved August 18, 1994.

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LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—S.J. Res. 204:

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 140 (1994):

July 15, considered and passed Senate.

Aug. 8, considered and passed House.